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and medicine, with several pages devoted to a description of Heron's automatic machine for the representation of a miniature Bacchic celebration. Then the author passes to the political and social life of the Greeks, discussing their criminal, civil and international procedure. To one familiar with the many cases of assault and battery preserved to us in private orations of the Attic orators, the emphasis on the safety of the individual in the streets of Athens, and the regard of Attic law for the dignity, as well as safety of the citizen, may seem a little too rose-colored; and the enforcement of the laws in Athens was certainly no more efficacious, if indeed it was not less, than in our own country which Professor Mahaffy mentions by way of unfavorable comparison (191).

The impression received from the book is that the Greeks possessed all virtues, and were untainted by vices, but as only their excellencies would impress and influence modern culture, the author had no warrant to sketch the other side of the picture. The lectures were designed and written for a popular audience; they furnish an admirable reply to the oft-heard query: Why should Greek be studied?

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#### ROMAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH IN 1909

Excavation and consequent literary elucidation in the field of Roman archaeology have if anything increased their output this past year. There have been no startling discoveries; there has been some acrimonious discussion concerning the finds on the Janiculum in and near the grove of Furrina (see THE CLASSICAL WEEKLY 2.244-246), and consequently much careful work has been done there; Mrs. Strong, with whom Mr. Ashby agrees, has undone the critics who have lauded so highly the charms of the now famous statue, The Maiden of Antium (La fanciulla d'Anzio), by proving that the statue is that of a boy (see THE CLASSICAL WEEKLY 3. 146-147, 182-183). But perhaps the most important discoveries of Roman archaeologists this past year have been in connection with prehistoric settlements. In France, in Spain, in Sicily, in Etruria and the Po valley more than a score of prehistoric sites have been found and excavated. In Italy this is a continuation of the sort of valuable work which has been treated by Mr. Peet in The Stone and Bronze Ages in Italy. Mr. Mackenzie of the British School has continued work in Sardinia, and has shown that the *nuraghi* are castles or forts, and that the so-called Giants' tombs are the places of burial for the inhabitants of the *nuraghi*, who were the early nobles. These edifices show an indigenous development, but they are analogous with the neolithic and early bronze civilizations in southern France, Spain, Sicily, Crete and the islands of the Aegean. Again, the numerous finds all over the Roman

world of hoards of coins, the acquisitions by the various museums of thousands of pieces of antiquities, and the formation of such numbers of enthusiastic local archaeological societies are all noteworthy matters.

In Italy, outside of Rome, the government is doing very little except at Pompeii and Ostia. In Pompeii the work progresses as usual, and in the past year several more houses have been brought to light. One, called the Casa dei Amorini Dorati, because in it were found some glass disks covered with gold leaf and incised with Cupids, excavated several years ago, but reconstructed and opened to view this year, is especially interesting because of its wall paintings. Three of the larger and more imposing panels represent Jason and Pelias, Thetis in Vulcan's workshop, and Achilles in his tent with Patroclus and Briseis. At Ostia continued work has laid bare a considerable portion more of the city. The long street which leads from the side of the modern town to the ancient theater and the portico along its west side have both been cleared. One or two fine pieces of statuary, scores of inscriptions, hundreds of architectural and sculptural fragments have been found and placed in the museum. Local societies have done much work in excavation at Palestrina, 25 miles southeast of Rome, on the site of the ancient necropolis and the great temple of Fortune; near Viterbo a 'pro-Ferento' society is clearing away the debris from the Roman bath and theater at Ferento; in Turin the Roman theater under the royal palace has been entirely uncovered; in the Alban Hills, excavation is going on at Civita Lavinia, where only two months ago a number of interesting foundations were brought to light, at Nemi on the lake of the same name, and at Marino, where a miniature Pompeii is being laid bare by the town authorities. These excavations are under the ultimate supervision of the central government, and are helpful to it, for it seems itself unable to initiate any very extended plans for excavation. In Rome itself very little work has been done during the past year. Excavations for city sewers and for garage foundations have been as productive as the regular archaeologically directed work. On the Via Flaminia, where a new garage was being built, among other objects of interest found was an inscription mentioning a town in Spain (Civitas Baesarensis) hitherto unknown. Near the Spithoever palace a fine stretch of the 'Servian' wall, 100 feet long and 9 courses high, has been brought to light. Several authorities are inclined to assign parts of this wall to a time before the Gallic invasion of 387, because what seems the earlier part of the wall measures to the standard of the Oscan foot, and the rest to that of the Roman. On the Palatine hill little more has been done than the leisurely prosecution of the excavation under the

foundations of the eastern portion of the house of Livia. Professor Pigorini has proved that none of the cinerary urn fragments found in 1907 near the *Scalae Caci* belong to the Villanova or hut urn types, and the very early date of burial on the Palatine seems to have been disproved. In the Forum, the excavation of the Basilica Aemilia has advanced scarcely at all in a year, and the prehistoric necropolis has been entirely filled in and the present level restored. The only find of consequence lately in the Forum is that of 86 seals bearing different devices. Work progresses slowly in the new Forum museum at S. Francesca Romana, but it is expected that it will be thrown open to the public next year at the opening of the exposition.

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We give in part an article in the April number of the *Bulletin of the Metropolitan Museum of Art*, continuing that published that week (page 215).

## II. BRONZES.

Among the bronzes purchased last year there is no one piece of prime importance; but there are a number of excellent workmanship and some of peculiar archaeological interest.

Our collection of mirrors is increased by three valuable examples, all of Etruscan workmanship. On one . . . is represented Odysseus attacking Circe . . . The legend of Circe, changing the companions of Odysseus into pigs and keeping them thus transformed until Odysseus himself appeared, was frequently depicted by Greek artists, especially on vases and mirrors. On our example Odysseus is represented attacking Circe with drawn sword, while she is raising both hands in horror and supplication. Elpenor stands on the other side armed with bow and arrow, likewise threatening the sorceress. In the foreground is one of Odysseus' unfortunate companions partially transformed into a pig, only the hind legs retaining human shape. The figures are identified by inscriptions in Etruscan letters: Uthste (Odysseus), Cerca (Circe), and Felparun (Elpenor). The presence of Elpenor as the companion who escaped the wiles of Circe and helped Odysseus to save his friends, is contrary to the story as told in Homer's *Odyssey*, where the rôle is assigned to Eurylochos. The Etruscan artist was evidently not concerned about having his representation archaeologically correct; he needed another figure on the right to balance Odysseus on the left and he supplied him with the name of Elpenor as one he remembered to be associated with Odysseus. The drawing of the scene on our mirror is of great delicacy and spirit. A very similar representation is on a mirror in the Louvre, where the figures are likewise inscribed; in execution, however, that is

inferior to our example. (*Cf. Annali dell' Istituto archeologico*, 1852, *Tav. d' agg. H.*)

The two statuettes included in this collection are both of small dimensions; but their execution is very fresh and vigorous, and therefore undoubtedly Greek. One represents Herakles struggling with the Nemean lion (height 2 1-16 inches (5.2 cm.)). Herakles has his left arm round the lion's neck and is throttling him with all his might. The strain of the action is well brought out by the tension given to each muscle. The lion is nearly dead and his limp body forms an effective contrast to the vigorous figure of Herakles. The elaboration of the modeling points to the Hellenistic or late Greek period as the date of this group.

Of peculiar interest is a farmyard group, of Roman date, consisting of two oxen, two bulls, a ram, a ewe, a goat, a kid, a pig, a sow, a plow, a country cart, and two yokes. They were found together and probably constitute either a votive offering or a child's toy. The animals, though rather roughly modeled, are all carefully characterized. Their average length is three to four inches. The plow is of the primitive type, in use both in Greek and Roman times, consisting of the pole, the plowtail, and the sharebeam. In our case the plowtail, which was held by the farmer, is missing, but a hole shows the point where it was attached. Though the rest of the plow was cast in one piece of bronze, the joints of the wooden original are all indicated; thus the pole is represented as fastened to the sharebeam by two large pegs, and on the end of the sharebeam a piece of metal is represented as attached by straps. The cart is of the general shape in use in Roman times for the transportation of eatables and army baggage. Similar carts occur on the column of Trajan, the chief difference being that in these the cart itself is raised above the wheels. Plows and carts were usually drawn by oxen, as was probably the case in our group, especially as the find includes two yokes. These yokes are of the double type, with two curvatures to fit the necks and shoulders of the oxen on which they were placed. In one yoke the holes are indicated through which was passed the leather straps fastening the yokes to the oxen. On the center of each yoke at the top is a cavity into which the pole fitted.

The fragmentary relief of a youth of Polykleitan type (height 3 7/8 inches (9.8 cm.)), probably served as an ornament of a vase or other object. The treatment both of the body and the head shows the characteristics associated with the sculptor Polykleitos. The body is of the massive, heavy build, with strongly developed muscles intersecting each other in definite planes, which we find both in the *Doryphoros* and the *Diadumenos*; the pose, with the weight of the body resting mainly on the right leg,